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LETTER DATED 24 JUNE 1995 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES, A.I. OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to present the attached letter, dated today, from my Minister for Foreign Affairs addressed to you (see annex).

May I ask for your kind assistance in circulating the present letter and its annex as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Ivan Z. MISIC
Chargé d'affaires, a.i.

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Annex

Letter dated 24 June 1995 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina addressed to the President of the Security Council

We have given our sovereign consent for the presence of the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) in the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina and we continue to seek good cooperation with UNPROFOR in executing its mandate in our Republic. At such time that we would come to believe that UNPROFOR is a counter-productive element in our Republic, then we would simply ask UNPROFOR to leave.

In the meantime, we deeply regret and resent the actions of either the United Nations Secretariat or members of the Security Council who further contribute to the deterioration of UNPROFOR's mission in our Republic through measures that unduly project disagreements or conflicts between our Government and UNPROFOR.

In this context, and especially from my perspective in Sarajevo, we cannot comprehend how the Secretariat can provide information to the Security Council and how the Security Council can request measures from the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina in the presidential statement adopted today in New York, when neither the headquarters of UNPROFOR in Sarajevo nor its relevant counterparts in the Government of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina are informed of and asked to resolve the alleged difficulties that are seemingly the basis for criticism in New York.

We can only come to the following conclusion: if the Secretariat and the Security Council desire to maximize cooperation, it is essential that any difficulty that UNPROFOR encounters with official governmental organs of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina must be communicated from UNPROFOR's headquarters in Sarajevo so that we may at least be given a chance for the matter to be resolved between us as the host country and UNPROFOR as the appropriate international entity in our Republic.

Regardless of the significance or validity of the issue or the problem, it is nonsensical that a problem be perceived to exist within the offices of the Secretariat or the Security Council in New York, but that such alleged problem is not recognized to exist in Sarajevo in the daily comminations between UNPROFOR headquarters and the proper authorities of the Government of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Furthermore it is inconsistent with the authority under which the contributors offer their forces to UNPROFOR, i.e. as part of a United Nations mandate and command, for these matters to be primarily or initially addressed between the Government of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the troop contributor on a bilateral basis.

Once again we must firmly suggest that any perceived concern must be first addressed at the level of UNPROFOR command in Sarajevo.

We are disappointed to point out that in criticizing the Government of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina in today's presidential statement, both the Security Council and the Secretariat have not given heed to this most basic and logical means of cooperation.

Although we do feel unduly criticized and injured as a consequence by the manner in which this was dealt with by the United Nations Secretariat and the Security Council, we once again offer our commitment for cooperation. At the same time, we expect the Secretariat and all those working under the United Nations mandate in the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina also to observe the most basic norms of operation consistent with their mandate and desire from cooperation as long as UNPROFOR is in the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina with the consent of our Government.

(Signed) Muhamed SACIRBEY
Minister for Foreign Affairs